

International Application No. PCT/BE2004/000168  
Attorney Docket No. COST3002/JEK  
Preliminary Amendment

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please insert the following Abstract as shown on the next page:

Abstract

A web alignment method and apparatus for a printing system that includes a friction drive, wherein the alignment device provides one or more of the following: a) a stable medium path with reduced web-walk, b) an alignment system that is not sensitive to the mechanical alignment of an upstream device such as a roll unwinder, c) an alignment system having a lower complexity and lower cost than active controlled systems, and d) an alignment system that is compatible with a wide range of media, ranging from lightweight papers (for example 60 gsm) to heavyweight stock (such as 300 gsm) including high weight high gloss coated grades. The alignment device includes an arrangement for supporting the web in an arcuate form between adjustable side guides.